



August 31, 2000

Title: Green Mountain Energy Company Goes Back to School With Solar Power Donation supports DOE's Million Solar Roofs Initiative

Summary:

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 31, 2000 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ -- Green Mountain Energy Company announced today that the company will donate a 2kW solar electric (photovoltaic) system for rooftop installation to a high school in San Diego County. Those schools that wish to be considered will be screened for site suitability and asked to submit an original essay written by one of their students entitled "WHY I LOVE SOLAR POWER."

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Story Filed: Thursday, August 31, 2000 11:14 AM EST

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(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20000804/GMELOGO>)

"Because San Diego County has been the most dramatically effected by the recent energy price spikes, we have designated the San Diego region as the first in California to be eligible to apply for our Solar Powered Schools Program," said Julie Blunden, President Western Region of Green Mountain Energy Company. "We are pleased to support the Department of Energy's Million Solar Roofs initiative to help raise awareness about the importance of solar power in the fight against dependence on energy produced from fossil fuels."



The Solar Powered Schools installation will contribute to the Million Solar Roofs Initiative's goal of installing one million solar energy systems on U.S. buildings by the year 2010. Dan Reicher, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy congratulated Green Mountain Energy Company for their contribution. "We welcome Green Mountain Energy Company's Solar Powered Schools program as a partner in promoting the Energy Department's Million Solar Roofs Initiative. Educating young people about solar power helps us to spur the development of clean energy sources which, in turn, leads to a cleaner, healthier environment for everyone."

Deadline for submission of applications is October 1st, 2000. The winning school will be announced by November 1st. The selected school will receive:

- Complete installation of 2kW solar system on the school's rooftop;
- A companion curriculum, including related activities guide and CD-ROMs that provide resource materials on renewable energy relating to science, math and social studies topics;
- An organized "SOLAR POWERED SCHOOL CELEBRATION" day to officially dedicate the system and provide hands-on workshops on solar power and renewable energy for the surrounding community;
- Formal training for teachers and building facilities personnel on system specifications and maintenance;
- Six-year service contract including on-site technical support.

Solar Works, Inc. of Montpelier, VT will install the 2kW solar system, which is targeted for completion by November 30th.

"We are extremely pleased to be working with Green Mountain Energy Company to support their Solar Powered Schools Program in California," said Leigh Seddon, President of Solar Works. "We hope this effort will provide an opportunity for the entire San Diego community to increase their awareness of the benefits of solar power."

The panels will provide nearly 3,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy per year, enough power to run ten computers four or five hours per day. The installation will be used to help educate the students and community about the important role that solar energy can play in reducing fossil fuel use for the generation of electricity.

Since July of this year, Green Mountain Energy Company has been actively promoting ways to help San Diego customers handle the effects of the recent dramatic energy price spikes:

- Organized compact fluorescent light bulb giveaways at Green Mountain Energy(SM) consumer information events across the county to promote energy conservation.
- Initiated wider qualification guidelines for budget billing eligibility.
- Made a donation to St. Vincent de Paul Village to defray increased energy costs for their San Diego homeless shelters.
- Continued to advocate for fast track development of new renewable



generation facilities to fill the energy supply gap with renewable power.

Schools in the San Diego region interested in applying for the Solar Powered Schools program should contact Alexa Hanke, 802-846-6150, [www.solarpoweredschools.com](http://www.solarpoweredschools.com).

#### About Green Mountain Energy Company

Green Mountain Energy Company ( [www.GreenMountain.com](http://www.GreenMountain.com)) is a leading provider of environmentally cleaner electricity to residential customers in California, Pennsylvania and New Jersey through its Green Mountain Energy(SM) brand. Green Mountain Energy(SM) products feature cleaner and renewable generation sources that are dramatically cleaner than typical regional system power.

The dates and locations of the five new renewable facilities, which represent the first steps towards Green Mountain Energy Company's goal of changing the way power is made, are:

- April 22, 1999 -- the largest solar generation facility in Pennsylvania located outside of Philadelphia.
- July 28, 1999 -- three new 700kW Wind Turbines in San Geronio Pass in California.
- October 19, 1999 -- A 132kW Solar Power Plant called located in Hopland, CA.
- May 1, 2000 -- The 10.4 MW Green Mountain Wind Farm, the largest in Pennsylvania and one of the largest in the eastern U.S. is completed in Garrett PA.
- September 2000 -- 100kW solar power system on top of the PowerLight Corporation's new solar panel manufacturing facility scheduled for completion. It will be the largest solar facility in the San Francisco Bay Area.

#### About Million Solar Roofs Initiative

Million Solar Roofs Initiative ( [www.MillionSolarRoofs.org](http://www.MillionSolarRoofs.org)) is a national effort to increase the use of solar energy systems on buildings. It is coordinated by the Department of Energy and works to increase awareness and use of solar energy technologies.

#### SOURCE Green Mountain Energy Company

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